With the setting up of this Ministry the export is expected to increase considerably.

(c) Foreign Collaboration with pepsi is aimed at improving the existing technology covering the entire spectrum from plant productivity to Food Processing and marketing with a view to maximise production, reduce costs and ensure higher return to the former in addition to opening up better export market.

Purchase Policy of N.C.C.F.

1839. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 1254 given in Rajya Sabha on the 6th May, 1988 and state:

(a) whether Government approve the purchase policy of N.C.C.F. for buying grocery items worth crores of rupees by overlooking the established purchase procedures laid down by Government such as Inviting Tenders, formation of purchase committee and without written agreements etc.;

(b) if not, why no action has been taken against the defaulting Branch Managers of Patna, Kanpur, Calcutta, Cuttack and Bangalore; and

(c) why only BM (Srinagar) has been suspended during 1985 for not following the procedures as pointed out by Auditors?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) No, Sir. The Government is not required to approve the purchase policy of NCCF. It is for NCCF to draw their own policies in the best interest of the share holders and member cooperatives.

(b) NCCF on examination have found that certain purchases made by Patna, Bangalore, Kanpur, Calcutta and Cuttack were made by forming Committees and against the specific requirements, indents of the purchasing parties. As regard Calcutta Branch, there is no specific mention of purchase of grocery items in the year 1984-85 in the Audit Report.

(c) The Branch Manager (Srinagar) has been suspended in the year 1985 for various charges. Non-following of procedure in purchases was one of the charges against him.

Wharfage|Demurrage Paid by NCCF

1840. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to reply to Starred Question 404 and Unstarred Question 3276 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th December, 1987 and 25th March, 1988, respectively, and state:

(a) whether NCCF, which was asked to look into this case, has since fixed responsibility of the guilty officers as to payment of Rs. 2.05 lacs towards wharfage|demurrage, Rs. 1.5 lacs towards transportation cost and shortages valuing about Rs.1.40 lacs;

(b) whether it is a fact that 1100 M. Tonnes of coal, being almost the dust, is a dead loss to NCCF.

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Branch Incharge, Chandigarh has supressed the letter of Haryana Government wherein they have stated that they would not accept the stocks if their Depots declined to sell the Coal thus blocking NCCF in making alternate disposal arrangements in time; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and what action has been taken against the guilty officers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIER (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) NCCF have reported that the case is still under examination.

(b) No. Sir. The coal stock is still in saleable condition and efforts are being made to dispose it off.

(c) No, Sir. According to the terms and conditions of the agreement with the Handling Agents, it was the responsibility of the Handling Agents to lift the left over stocks in case the Depots holders fail to lift them for any reason.

(d) Does not arise.